

1917

BOROUGH OF SUDBURY,

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1917.

Population 1911, 7,141.

1917, Estimated at 6,000.

Acreage, 1,925.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 1,792.

Average Number of Persons per house, 4.0.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

There were 85 births registered during the year, 40 males and 45 females, equivalent to a birth-rate of 14.1 per thousand of the population. The births and birth-rates during the previous seven years were :

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
Births	138	134	129	129	126	102	111	85
Birth-rate	19.6	18.6	18.0	18.0	17.5	14.2	15.1	14.1

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths from all causes registered in the district was 99, to which have to be added 6 deaths of residents not registered in the district, making a total of 105. From this has to be deducted 31 deaths of non-residents, which occurred in the Workhouse and St. Leonard's Hospital, making the nett deaths 74, equivalent to a death-rate of 12.3 per thousand. The deaths and death-rates during the previous seven years were :

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
Deaths registered	118	147	144	129	141	163	126	99
Deaths belonging in the District	92	101	104	75	111	134	105	74
Death-rate	12.8	14.1	14.5	10.4	15.3	18.5	14.5	12.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered 3, due to congenital debility. The infant death-rate for the previous seven years was :

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
Deaths of children under 1 year	8	17	9	5	9	19	10	3
Rate per 1000 of births registered	58.0	126.8	69.7	39.0	71.4	186.2	90.0	35.3

GENERAL MORTALITY.

Among the deaths registered were 4 from phthisis, 2 from cancer, and 2 from accidents. No deaths occurred from any of the Zymotic diseases. Over the age of 75 there were 25 deaths.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever, 4 cases. Diphtheria, 2 cases. Measles, 68. This latter outbreak occurred in May and June, necessitating the closure of the infant schools for three weeks.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 16 cases notified, 3 of which were in the Workhouse Infirmary, 5 of the cases were removed to Bury Sanatorium, 1 to a private sanatorium, and 1 had a shelter provided. Of the 4 deaths which occurred one had been lately in Bury Sanatorium.

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases were notified chiefly affecting glands.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

It was necessary to open it twice during the year, first for 3 cases of scarlet fever, and later for 2 cases of diphtheria.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES. Part I. of 1909 Act.

This year the number of dwelling houses inspected, 165. The number in which defects were remedied, 52. Other action under this Act was not required.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

This was well maintained during the year, the average consumption per head, including trade purposes, being 16 gallons daily.

SEWERAGE WORKS.

These were kept satisfactorily. 1,384 loads of refuse were collected and dealt with at the Refuse Destructor.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Two complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. These were at once attended to, and defects remedied.

GENERAL SANITATION.

The following is a statement of the number of notices, inspections, etc., made during the year :—

Number of written notices sent out respecting defects and nuisances	...	87
Additional premises provided with Town water	4
Additional closets provided with flushing cisterns	6
Number of houses and premises connected with the sewers or re-drained	...	2
Number of new houses completed	0
Number of houses disinfected	48
Number of schools disinfected	2
Number of nuisances abated	57
Number of slaughter-house inspections made monthly	15
Number of dairies' and cowsheds' inspections, made monthly	15
Number of pigstyes inspected	12
Number of bakehouses inspected	13
Number of cases of overcrowding abated	3

The systematic and general inspections, as well as the sanitary work of the Borough, have been carried out most satisfactorily by the Deputy Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. G. H. Rampling, S.I.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

For over two years the Infant Welfare Society has been doing useful work in the Borough. Fortnightly meetings are held in the Technical Institute. 44 mothers are members, and their babies are weighed monthly, practical instructions are given, often by the County M.O.H., Dr. Bygott.

THE RED CROSS HOSPITAL.

This Hospital at Belle Vue has been kept busy during the year. There were 185 sick or wounded soldiers treated and all did well, and they constantly expressed their thanks for the kindness and comfort they received while in the Hospital.

J. SINCLAIR HOLDEN, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.